(b) if so. the facts thereof; and

(c) the number of PCLs purchased by the Government Departments and have found inferior in quality and the sources of such PCLs purchases;

(d) the steps taken to get the defective sets of PCLs replaced or refund of money from the source of purchase; and

(e) the number of these PCLs sold by the Kendriya Bhandar to Government Department ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The news item essentially relates to grievances of a private firm arising out of purchase of PCL computers. The Department of Electronics does not procure computers for Government Ministries/Departments or for any other agency.

As per the information made available by the Kendriya Bhandar, during the current financial year, they have sold fourteen (14) Personal Computers (PCs) to various Government Departments, out of which no complaint regarding inferior quality or defective machine has been received by them.

Construction of Haj Houses

3779. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Uttar Pradesh proposes to build Haj House in Lucknow;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the expenditure proposed to be incurred on it;

(c) whether other State Governments already have such houses;

(d) whether the Union Government propose to issue any directive to all the State Governments to build Haj Houses in the Capital of each State for facilitating Haj Pilgrims; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the assistance to be provided by Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS. (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Government is not aware of any proposal from Government of Uttar Pradesh to build Haj House in Lucknow.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Haj House has recently been built in West Bengal by the West Bengal State Haj Committee. Gujarat and Jammu & Kashmir State Haj Committees propose to build Haj Houses in their respective States.

(d) No, sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Vacant Properties.

3780. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of shops/office complexes/restaurants etc., constructed by DDA are lying vacant, as on date and the number out of these in DDA built markets in Vishakha Enclave and Maurya Enclave areas of Pitampura, Delhi;

(b) when these shops/complexes/restaurants etc. were built by DDA and the reasons for these properties to have remained vacant; and

(c) the steps taken to put these properties to proper use ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The DDA has reported that as on 28.2.97, 3389 shops/office complexes/ restaurants, etc. constructed by it were lying vacant/ unalloted. Out of these, 185 shops/office complexes/ restaurants are located in Vishakha Enclave, Maurya Enclave and Pitampura.

(b) These complexes were constructed from the year 1985 upto December, 1996. The reasons due to which these properties have remained vacant/unsold are:-

(i) Recession in the money market;

(ii) Non-release of electric connection by DESU in some markets; and

(iii) Misuse of the residential premises surrounding the shopping complexes for commercial purposes.

(c) (i) Requests from Government Departments/ Public Sector Undertakings like banks, post offices, MTNL, etc. are considered as and when received.

(ii) Vacant/unallotted properties are being put to auction from time to time.

[Translation]

District Under Employment Assurance Scheme

3781. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the